

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 09/811,875
Inventor(s) : Bruce Albert Yeazell *et al.*
Filed : March 19, 2001
Art Unit : 3743
Examiner : Jiping Lu
Docket No. : 6805C
Confirmation No. : 1033
Customer No. : 27752
Title : Bagless Dry Cleaning Kits and Processes for Dry Cleaning

RESPONSE TO NON-COMPLIANT APPEAL BRIEF

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents

Commissioner for Patents

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Response is filed pursuant to a Notification of Non-Compliant Brief dated March 6, 2009.

According to the Notification, Applicant's Appeal Brief filed on September 4, 2007, is defective for having failed to provide a concise explanation of the subject matter defined in each of the independent claims involved in the appeal and reference the specification by page and line number. The Notification states that the entire Brief need not be filed but rather only a "paper" to correct the Appeal Brief's Summary of Claimed Subject Matter.

Applicant hereby submits a paper to address the defect.

SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Of the claims on appeal, there are seven independent claims, specifically claims 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18. A summary of the claimed subject matter for each of the independent claims is provided:

Claim 11, and the balance of the pending claims(s) which depend therefrom, relate to a bagless kit for dry cleaning fabrics (p. 3, l. 1-5) comprising one or more carrier sheets (p. 8, l. 1 *et seq.*) that releasably comprise an amount of a liquid cleaning/refreshment composition (p. 15, l. 5 *et seq.*) such that when fabrics are exposed to the liquid cleaning/refreshment composition within a heating vessel (p. 4, l. 11-14), in the absence of a bag, the fabrics are cleaned.

Claim 13, and the balance of the pending claims(s) which depend therefrom, relate to a method for cleaning fabrics in need of cleaning (p. 3, l. 30 - 31) comprising: placing the fabrics in a heating vessel (p. 4, l. 11-14); placing a carrier sheet (p. 8, l. 1 *et seq.*) that releasably comprises an amount of a liquid cleaning/refreshment composition (p. 15, l. 5 *et seq.*), such that when the fabrics are exposed to said liquid cleaning/refreshment composition the fabrics are cleaned, into the heating vessel (p. 4, l. 11-14); and operating the heating vessel, in the absence of a bag, such that the carrier sheet releases the liquid cleaning/refreshment composition in the form of a liquid vapor within the heating vessel (p. 7, l. 24-35).

Claim 14, and the balance of the pending claims(s) which depend therefrom, relate to a system for dry cleaning fabrics comprising contacting fabrics in need of cleaning with a liquid cleaning/refreshment composition (p. 15, l. 5 *et seq.*) such that the fabrics are cleaned, wherein the fabrics and liquid cleaning/refreshment composition are contained within a mechanical heating vessel (p. 4, l. 11-14).

Claim 15, and the balance of the pending claims(s) which depend therefrom, relate to a method for cleaning fabrics in need of cleaning (p. 3, l. 30 - 31) comprising: placing the fabrics in a heating vessel (p. 4, l. 11-14); introducing an amount of a liquid cleaning/refreshment composition (p. 15, l. 5 *et seq.*) into the heating vessel such that the fabrics are cleaned; and operating the heating vessel, in the absence of a bag, such that the liquid cleaning/refreshment composition cleans the fabrics (p. 7, l. 24-35).

Claim 16, and the balance of the pending claims(s) which depend therefrom, relate to a system for dry cleaning fabrics comprising an amount of a liquid cleaning/refreshment composition (p. 15, l. 5 *et seq.*) contained within a heating vessel, wherein fabrics present in the heating vessel are cleaned upon operating said heating vessel, in the absence of a bag (p. 7, l. 24-35).

Claim 17, and the balance of the pending claims(s) which depend therefrom, relate to a method for dry cleaning fabrics in a heating vessel without adding wrinkles to the fabric articles (p. 3, l. 30 - 31) comprising: placing the fabrics in a heating vessel (p. 4, l. 11-14); placing a carrier sheet (p. 8, l. 1 *et seq.*) that releasably comprises an amount of a liquid cleaning/refreshment composition (p. 15, l. 5 *et seq.*), such that when the fabrics are exposed to said liquid cleaning/refreshment composition the fabrics are cleaned, into the heating vessel (p. 4, l. 11-14); and operating the heating vessel, in the absence of a bag, such that the carrier sheet releases the liquid cleaning/refreshment composition in the form of a liquid vapor within the heating vessel (p. 7, l. 24-35).

Claim 18, and the balance of the pending claims(s) which depend therefrom, relate to a method for cleaning fabrics in need of cleaning comprising (p. 3, l. 30 - 31): placing the fabrics in a heating vessel (p. 4, l. 11-14);; exposing said fabrics within the heating vessel, in the absence of a bag, to an amount of liquid cleaning/refreshment composition (p. 7, l. 24-35) for an amount of time such that the fabrics are cleaned.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims are allowable. Accordingly, Appellants respectfully request reversal of all rejections.

Respectfully submitted,

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